



MONTHLY AGRO-METEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

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OVERVIEW OF CONDITIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2013

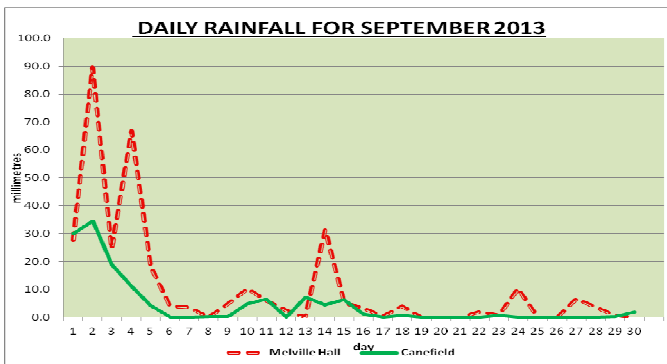


Figure 1 Daily rainfall at Canefield and Melville Hall Airports

A broad area of low pressure associated with a tropical wave produced the month’s highest daily rainfall totals during the first week with drier conditions persisting through to the end of the month.

Rainfall total of 133.7mm recorded at the Canefield Airport was 47% below the month’s average. The highest daily total recorded was 34.6mm on the 2nd. Twelve (12) rainfall days were recorded and that is 5 days below the normal. There was a dry spell length of 13 days occurring during the second half of the month.

At the Melville Hall Airport, rainfall total recorded was 326.5mm and that is 2% above the normal. The highest daily total of 89.6mm was recorded on the 2nd. Nineteen (19) rainfall days were recorded and that is normal for September. Dry spells recorded for the month was insignificant.

The relatively dry conditions experienced across parts of the island limited major new crop establishments in some of the agricultural regions. Root crop establishment took place in all regions with passion fruit

and plantain establishments mainly in the north region and vegetables and flowers in the south region.

The Black Sigatoka Disease continued spreading in new areas. There were no reports of further spreading of the Citrus Greening Disease.

Pesticide Awareness Week ran from the 23rd to 27th under the theme **Store Wise Save Lives**. Various activities took place including training sessions for farmers, stakeholders and schools. The Disaster Risk Mitigation Project underwent training for farmers teaching technics to help improve local farms and combat resilience of natural disasters on agricultural products. There was also a training session on crop and livestock production.

MONTHLY WEATHER PARAMETERS FOR SEPTEMBER

Parameter	Canefield Airport	Melville-Hall Airport
Rainfall Total	133.7mm	326.5mm
30 year average	253.7mm	319.1mm
Wet Days (>1.0mm)	12	19
Temperature	29.0°C	28.6°C
30 year average	28.7°C	28.6°C
Maximum Temperature	34.3°C (28 th)	32.1°C (29 th)
Minimum Temperature	22.2°C (22 nd)	22.9°C (21 st)
Relative Humidity	65%	79%
Maximum wind gust	41km/h	50km/h

Table 1 Monthly weather parameters

2013 HURRICANE NAMES

~~Andrea, Barry, Chantal, Dorian, Erin, Fernand, Gabrielle, Humberto, Ingrid, Jerry, Karen, Lorenzo, Melissa, Nestor, Olga, Pablo, Rebekah, Sebastien, Tanya, Van, Wendy.~~

CLIMATE SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER

Parameter	Canefield Airport	Melville Hall Airport
Rainfall	188.2mm	319.8mm
<i>-highest total</i>	439.1mm (1985)	644.9mm (1998)
<i>-lowest total</i>	27.6mm (1992)	94.2mm (1991)
Temperature	28.5°C	28.2°C
<i>-maximum</i>	34.3°C (2009)	33.5°C (1999)
<i>-minimum</i>	20.8°C (1994)	17.2°C (1995)
Chance of 5 day dry spell	68%	29%
Chance of 10 day dry spell	16%	3%

Table 2 Climate summary for October

REGIONAL OVERVIEW ON SEASONAL CLIMATE FORECASTS

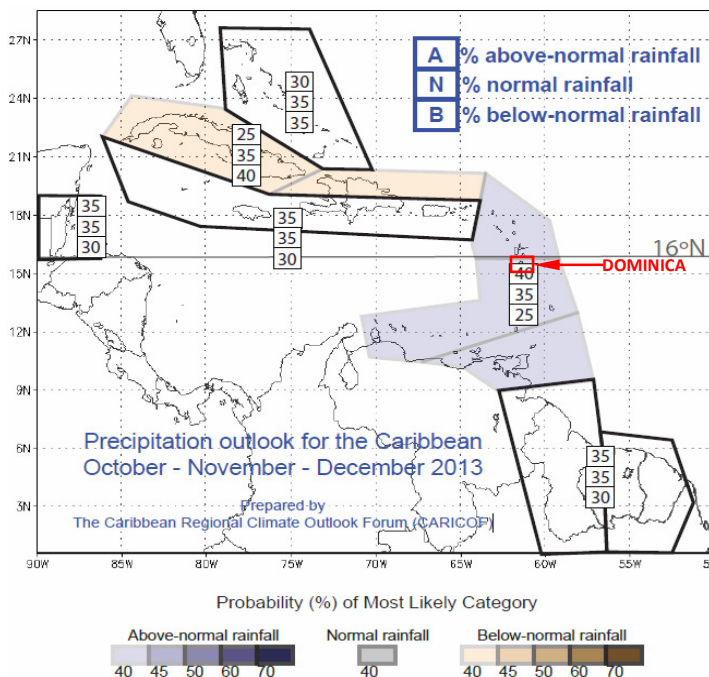


Figure 2 Precipitation outlook for the Caribbean: October-November-December 2013 (colored areas represent sub-regions in which the probabilities fall).

- Above to normal rainfall and air temperature is expected with a seventy-five percent (75%) confidence for rainfall and a seventy percent (70%) confidence for air temperature.
- There is a 40% chance that rainfall total will be above normal, a 35% chance of being normal and a 25% chance of being below normal.

OUTLOOK FOR THE FARMING COMMUNITY

To help curve the spread of the Black Sigatoka Disease, farmers are encouraged to continue the de-leafing of infected leaves and reduce the transportation of plants and or leaves from one location to the next.

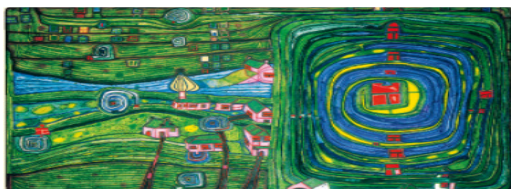
Farmers are encouraged to continue the establishment of new crops. The coffee development program is ongoing and plants can be purchased at the Woodfordhill Agricultural Station.

The Backyard Garden Enhancement Program in the south east communities is expected to be launched with the goal “Combating Micronutrient Deficiencies”.

In collaboration with IICA, a workshop on **Climate Change Strategy for Agriculture** will be held targeting farmers, extension officers and various stakeholders in agriculture.

Irish potato farmers are encouraged to register at the various stations for the start of the season and there will also be training sessions on Irish potato production.

● NM: 5th ● FQ: 11th ○ FM: 18th ● LQ: 26th



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Agromet bulletins from across the region can be accessed via <http://63.175.159.26/~cimh/cami/>. This bulletin is prepared by the Dominica Meteorological Service with support from the CAMI project and the Ministry of Agriculture. Feedback on this bulletin should be forwarded to The Senior Meteorological Officer at metoffice@cwdom.dm Tele: 767 445 7878, 767 449 1990. Website: www.weather.gov.dm Hotline: 447 5555